HF Happenings 933

He claimed he was a DXer

..but he only operates on FT8

No HF Happenings last week. Carina and I went to the North West Province to help our daughter and family move from the farm near Gerdau to the new farm about 25 km west of Stella. Pieter is now concentrating on cattle and no more maize and peanuts.

Mobile phone reception in the rural areas is not good and it is a struggle to get e-mail sent and received. Most of the time the signal strength is 1 bar and it cycles between No Service, Vodacom, Vodacom E and Vodacom 3G – without me moving from my chair on the veranda. I will not talk about Cell C which Carina uses! Even in the town of Stella, the signal is bad. Here in Bloemfontein, within a radius of 100 m from my home I have two mobile phone towers!

The SARL Wednesday 80 m Club Sprint on 20 January

The first leg of the Wednesday 80 m Club Sprint takes place from 17:30 to 18:30 UTC (19:30 to 20:30 CAT) Wednesday 20th January with phone and CW activity. The exchange is a RS or RST report, your Club name and your 4-character grid square (e.g., KG30). You score 2 points for each QSO, 2 points for each new grid square worked and 1 point for each new Club worked. Submit your log by 23:59 CAT on Monday 25th January to zs4bfn@mweb.co.za. Please note that the time and the exchange have been altered. Turn to page 63 of the 2021 SARL Blue Book for all the information.

The SARL Summer QRP Contest

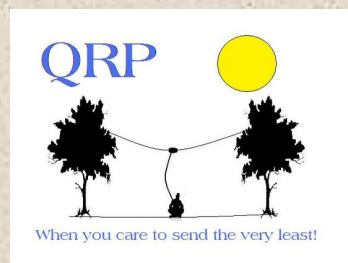The QRP contests are intended to be fun activities to promote QRP operation between radio amateurs. Using homebuilt equipment or operating as a portable/field station and using temporary antennas is encouraged but is not a requirement.

The Summer QRP Contest runs from 12:00 to 13:30 UTC (14:00 to 15:30 CAT) Saturday 23 January 2021 with SSB and CW activity using 5 watts (PEP) output or less. The first 45 minutes is limited

to the 40 m band only, the remaining 45 minutes the contesters are free to use any HF (non-WARC) band as they see fit.

The exchange is a RS or RST report and your Grid locator. Please consider exchanging realistic RS(T) signal reports and use the full 6- character grid locator. e.g., KG10XX.

Logs in ADIF or Cabrillo with a summary sheet or MS Excel shall be submitted by 28 January 2021 by e-mail to info@zs6wr.co.za. When submitting your log, your call sign must appear in the file name, e.g., 7P8DG SARL QRP contest.xlsx and a photo(s) of the station operating (JPG format) MUST accompany every log entry. Get all the rules on page 95 of the 2021 SARL Diary of Events and Contest Manual.

3Y0I Bouvet Island DXpedition News (Update)

The following was posted on the Rebel DX Group Facebook page, 4 January [edited]. Some members of the Rebel DX Group have arrived in Cape Town, South Africa. After several COVID protocols we are in the good hands of our ZS friends and local supporters. Just to remind you, the whole of our expedition equipment from the first Bouvet "attack" was secured at the QTH of Andre, ZS1AN. What a great guy he is!! We will check again all our expedition gear during the coming days. We had a very busy day yesterday with Shawn, ZS1SBW, working on important paperwork for upcoming projects. More info on that soon.
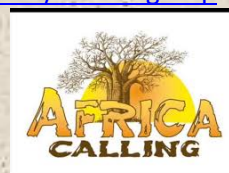
The Bouvet (3Y0I) trip is on track. Still some budget is missing but we are hoping to get some of the missing $$$. Our last attempt cost us over $250K private money (donations were just 7%) and sadly that went to the "vessel chimney" (for fuel). Let's hope, this time we will be more lucky. Here is a link if you are willing to help https://www.gofundme.com/f/3yi-bouvet-island-expedition

For your information, we will not apply for financial support to any DX Foundation or big Clubs as their conditions are not acceptable to us for a trip to one of the most wanted DXCC entities; and one of hardest places to go on our planet.

For more "possible" details and updates on the Bouvet Island DXpedition, watch the following Web page and Media sites. This is the main site where you can find more details on the project and news - https://bouvetoya.org; Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/bouvetoya.org; Twitter: https://twitter.com/Bouvetoyaorg and Rebel DX Group: https://www.facebook.com/rebeldxgroup

African DX

Contacts with stations on the African continent count towards the SARL's All Africa Award (www.sarl.org.za/public/awards/awards.asp)

Zambia, 9J. Brian, 9J2BO is usually active on 40 metres using CW from 03:30 to 05:00 UTC. QSL via EA5GL.

Gabon, TR. Alain, TR8CA has been active using CW and RTTY on 20 metres between 16:00 and 17:30 UTC. QSL via F6CBC.

Mali, TZ. Jeff, TZ4AM has been active on 30 and 17 metres using CW between 17:45 and 20:00 UTC. QSL via W0SA.

Togo, 5V. Daniel, HB9EHD, will once again be active as 5VDE from Togo between 11 and 20 February. He plans to be active on the QO-100 SSB satellite below the middle beacon and on FT8 on 40 and 20 metres. Look for QSOs to be uploaded to LoTW and eQSL. QSL via HB9EHD direct.

African Islands

Chagos Islands, VQ9. Randy, WW6RG, informs that his Diego Garcia operation has been cancelled. He states, "They have just changed their Covid-19 restrictions and we cannot leave our Base Housing which will make setting up my equipment impossible. Hopefully will be back out to another International location by mid-March."

Ascension Island, ZD8. Tev, TA1HZ, is now active as ZD8HZ and is there on a working assignment in Georgetown on Ascension Island (AF-003) for the duration of 2021. He will try to be on the air during his free time (since he is there working) using a Yaesu FT-991 running 100 W to a Windom wire antenna (80 – 10 m). Activity this past Sunday (17th) has been mainly FT8 on 20 and 17 metres. QSL via LoTW, CLubLog or eQSL. He states, "If you still need a hard-copy QSL card, please DO NOT SEND ANYTHING BEFORE 2022. I will not be back to Istanbul to check my POB 73 address and your mail can get lost."

Contest Calendar

This week's contests as compiled by Bruce Horn, WA7BNM. The period covered is 18 to 25 January 2021

Run for the Bacon QRP Contest
23:00 UTC 17 January to 01:00 UTC 18 January
Geographic Focus: Worldwide
Participation: Worldwide
Mode: CW
Bands: 160, 80, 40, 20, 15, 10 m
Classes: Single Band; All Band
Max power: 5 watts
Exchange: RST, state, province or country and member no or power
Work stations: Once per band
QSO Points: 1 point per QSO with non-member; 3 points per QSO with member on same continent; 5 points per QSO with member on different continent
Multipliers: Each state, province, or country once; Multiply mults by 2 if >50 members worked
Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults
Submit logs by: 24 January 2021
E-mail logs to: (none)
Upload log at:
http://qrpcontest.com/pigrun/autolog.php
Mail logs to: (none)
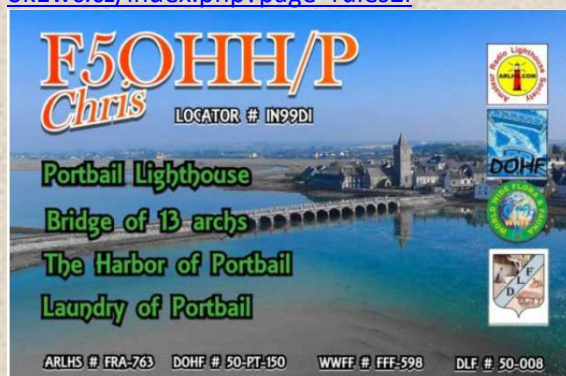Find rules at: http://qrpcontest.com/pigrun/

K1USN Slow Speed Test
00:00 - 01:00 UTC 18 January
Geographic Focus: Worldwide
Participation: Worldwide
Mode: CW
Bands: 160, 80, 40, 20 m

Classes: Single Op - QRP, low or high
Max power: HP: >100 watts; LP: 100 watts; QRP: 5 watts
Exchange: Maximum 20 wpm - Name and state, province or country
Work stations: Once per band
QSO Points: 1 point per QSO
Multipliers: Each state/province/country once per band; W/VE do not count as country mults
Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults
Submit logs by: 23:59 UTC 20 January 2021
Post log summary at:
http://www.3830scores.com
Mail logs to: (none)
Find rules at: http://www.k1usn.com/sst.html

OK1WC Memorial (MWC)
16:30 - 17:29 UTC 18 January
Geographic Focus: Worldwide
Participation: Worldwide
Mode: CW
Bands: 80, 40 m

Classes: Single Op All Band - QRP or low; Single Op Single Band - QRP or low
Max power: LP: 100 watts; QRP: 5 watts
Exchange: RST and serial no
Work stations: Once per band
QSO Points: 1 point per QSO
Multipliers: Each last character of worked station call suffix once per band
Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults
Submit logs by: 06:00 UTC 22 January 2021
E-mail logs to: (none)
Upload log at: https://memorial-ok1wc.cz/index.php?page=logs
Mail logs to: (none)
Find rules at: https://memorial-ok1wc.cz/index.php?page=rules2l

Worldwide Sideband Activity Contest
01:00 - 01:59 UTC 19 January
Geographic Focus: Worldwide
Participation: Worldwide
Mode: SSB
Bands: 160, 80, 40, 20, 15, 10, 6 m
Classes: Single Op - QRP, low or high; Overlay: Youth (26 years old or younger); Youth YL (female 26 years old or younger); YL (female older than 26 years
Max power: HP: 1 500 watts; LP: 100 watts; QRP: 5 watts
Exchange: RS and age group (OM, YL, Youth YL or Youth)
Work stations: Once per band
QSO Points: 1 point per QSO with OM; 5 points per QSO with YL; 10 points per QSO with Youth; 15 points per QSO with Youth YL
Multipliers: Each DXCC once per band
Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults
Submit logs by: 01:59 UTC 20 January 2021
E-mail logs to: (none)
Upload log at: https://logs.wwsac.com/

Mail logs to: (none)
Find rules at: https://wwsac.com/rules.html

RTTYOPS Week Sprint
17:00 - 19:00 UTC 19 January
Geographic Focus: Worldwide
Participation: Worldwide
Mode: RTTY
Bands: 80, 40, 20 m
Classes: Single Op
Max operating hours: 2 hours
Exchange: other station's call, your call, serial no and your name
Work stations: Once per band
QSO Points: 1 point per QSO
Multipliers: (none)
Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points
Submit logs by: 23:59 UTC 26 January 2021
E-mail logs to: rtty-week-tuesday@nrrlcontest.no
Mail logs to: (none)
Find rules at: https://rttyops.wordpress.com/rtty-mini-contests/rttyops-Week Sprint/

QRP Fox Hunt
02:00 - 03:30 UTC 20 January
Geographic Focus: United States
Participation: Worldwide
Mode: CW
Bands: 40 m Only
Classes: Single Op - fox or hound
Max power: 5 watts
Exchange: RST, state, province or country, name and power output
QSO Points: 1 point per QSO
Multipliers: (none)
Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points
Submit logs by: 03:30 UTC 21 January 2021
E-mail logs to: (see rules)
Mail logs to: (none)
Find rules at: http://www.qrpfoxhunt.org/winter_rules.htm

Phone Weekly Test – Fray
02:30 - 03:00 UTC 20 January
Geographic Focus: North America
Participation: Worldwide
Mode: SSB

Bands: 160, 80, 40, 20, 15 m
Classes: Single Op
Max power: 100 watts
Exchange: NA: Name and state, province or country; non-NA: Name
Work stations: Once per band
QSO Points: NA station: 1 point per QSO; non-NA station: 1 point per QSO with an NA station
Multipliers: Each US state (including KH6/KL7) once per band; Each VE province/territory once per band; Each North American country (except W/VE) once per band
Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults
Submit logs by: 03:00 UTC 22 January 2021
E-mail logs to: (none)
Post log summary at:
http://www.3830scores.com
Mail logs to: (none)
Find rules at:
http://www.perluma.com/Phone_Fray_Contest_Rules.pdf

CWops Mini-CWT Test
13:00 - 14:00 UTC and 19:00 - 20:00 UTC 20 January and 03:00 - 04:00 UTC 21 January
Geographic Focus: Worldwide
Participation: Worldwide
Awards: Worldwide
Mode: CW
Bands: 160, 80, 40, 20, 15, 10 m
Classes: Single Op - QRP, low or high
Max power: HP: >100 watts; LP: 100 watts; QRP: 5 watts
Exchange: Member: Name and member no or CWA; non-Member: Name and state, province or country
Work stations: Once per band
QSO Points: 1 point per QSO
Multipliers: Each call once
Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults
Submit logs by: 04:00 UTC 23 January 2021
Post log summary at:
http://www.3830scores.com
Mail logs to: (none)
Find rules at: https://cwops.org/cwops-tests/

NAQCC CW Sprint
01:30 - 03:30 UTC 21 January
Geographic Focus: Worldwide

Participation: Worldwide
Mode: CW
Bands: 80, 40, 20 m
Classes: (none)
Max power: 5 watts
Exchange: RST, state, province or country and NAQCC no or power
Work stations: Once per band
QSO Points: 1 point per QSO with non-member; 2 points per QSO with member
Multipliers: Each state, province, or country once; Key Type Mult: 2 x if straight key, 1,5 x if bug, 1 x if other
Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults x key type mult
Submit logs by: 23:59 UTC 24 January 2021
E-mail logs to: naqcc33@windstream.net
jcoreyc@gmail.com
Upload log at:
http://naqcc.info/sprint_submit_log.html
Mail logs to: (none)
Find rules at:
http://naqcc.info/sprint/sprint202101.html

RTTYOPS Week Sprint
17:00 - 19:00 UTC 21 January
Geographic Focus: Worldwide
Participation: Worldwide
Mode: RTTY
Bands: 80, 40, 20 m
Classes: Single Op
Max operating hours: 2 hours
Exchange: other station's call, your call, serial no and your name
Work stations: Once per band
QSO Points: 1 point per QSO
Multipliers: (none)
Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points
Submit logs by: 23:59 UTC 28 January 2021

E-mail logs to: rtty-week-thursday@nrrlcontest.no
Mail logs to: (none)
Find rules at:
https://rttyops.wordpress.com/rtty-mini-contests/rttyops-Week Sprint/

NCCC RTTY Sprint
01:45 - 02:15 UTC 22 January
Geographic Focus: North America
Participation: Worldwide
Mode: RTTY
Bands: (see rules)
Classes: (none)
Exchange: Serial no, name and QTH
Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults
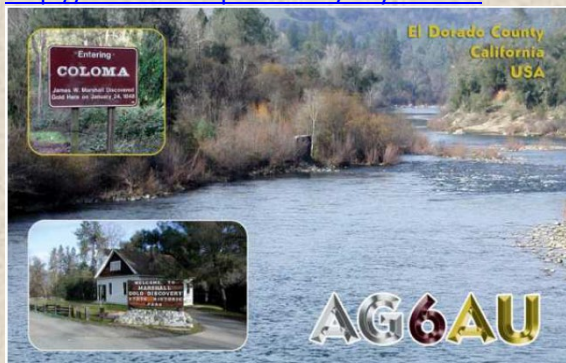Submit logs by: 24 January 2021
E-mail logs to: (none)
Post log summary at:
http://www.3830scores.com/
Mail logs to: (none)
Find rules at:
http://www.ncccsprint.com/rttyns.html

QRP Fox Hunt
02:00 - 03:30 UTC 22 January
Geographic Focus: United States
Participation: Worldwide
Mode: CW
Bands: 80 m Only
Classes: Single Op - fox or hound
Max power: 5 watts
Exchange: RST, state, province or country, name and power output
QSO Points: 1 point per QSO
Multipliers: (none)
Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points
Submit logs by: 03:30 UTC 23 January 2021
E-mail logs to: (see rules)
Mail logs to: (none)

Find rules at:
http://www.qrpfoxhunt.org/winter_rules.htm

NCCC Sprint Ladder
02:30 - 03:00 UTC 22 January
Geographic Focus: North America
Participation: Worldwide
Mode: CW
Bands: 160, 80, 40, 20, 15, 10, 6 m
Classes: Single Op
Max power: 100 watts
Exchange: Serial no, name and QTH
Work stations: Once per band
QSO Points: NA station: 1 point per QSO; non-NA station: 1 point per QSO with an NA station
Multipliers: Each US state (including KL7 and KH6) once per band; Each VE province once per band; Each North American country (except W/VE) once per band
Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults
Submit logs by: 24 January 2021
E-mail logs to: (none)
Post log summary at:
http://www.3830scores.com/
Mail logs to: (none)
Find rules at:
http://www.ncccsprint.com/rules.html

BARTG RTTY Sprint
12:00 UTC 23 January to 12:00 UTC 24 January
Geographic Focus: Worldwide
Participation: Worldwide
Mode: RTTY
Bands: 80, 40, 20, 15, 10 m
Classes: Single Op Expert; Single Op - QRP, low or high; Multi-Single; Multi-Multi; SWL
Max power: HP: >100 W; LP: 100 W; QRP: 5 W
Exchange: Serial no (no signal report)
Work stations: Once per band
QSO Points: 1 point per QSO
Multipliers: DXCC countries once regardless of band; JA, W, VE and VK areas once regardless of band
Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults x continents
Submit logs by: 31 January 2021
E-mail logs to: (none)
Upload log at: http://bartg.rsgbcc.org/cgi-bin/hfenter.pl
Mail logs to: (none)

Find rules at: http://bartg.org.uk/wp/bartg-sprint-contest/

UK/EI DX CW Contest
12:00 UTC 23 January to 12:00 UTC 24 January
Geographic Focus: Worldwide
Participation: Worldwide
Mode: CW
Bands: 80, 40, 20, 15, 10 m
Classes: Single Op Unconnected - 24 or 12 - QRP, low or high; Single Op Connected - 24 or 12 - QRP, low or high; Single Op Overlay: (Single-Element-Antenna); Multi-Single - QRP, low or high
Max power: HP: >100 W; LP: 100 W; QRP: 5 W
Exchange: UK/EI: RST, serial no and District Code; DX: RST and serial no
QSO Points: (see rules)
Multipliers: Each DXCC country once per band; Each UK/EI district once per band
Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults
Submit logs by: 12:00 UTC 25 January 2021
Upload log at: http://logs.ukeicc.com/cgi-bin/hfenter.pl
Mail logs to: (none)
Find rules at: https://www.ukeicc.com/dx-contest-rules.php

K1USN Slow Speed Test
00:00 - 01:00 UTC 25 January
Geographic Focus: Worldwide
Participation: Worldwide
Mode: CW
Bands: 160, 80, 40, 20 m
Classes: Single Op - QRP, low or high
Max power: HP: >100 watts; LP: 100 watts; QRP: 5 watts
Exchange: Maximum 20 wpm - Name and state, province or country
Work stations: Once per band
QSO Points: 1 point per QSO
Multipliers: Each state/province/country once per band; W/VE do not count as country mults
Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults
Submit logs by: 23:59 UTC 27 January 2021
Post log summary at:
http://www.3830scores.com
Mail logs to: (none)
Find rules at: http://www.k1usn.com/sst.html

QCX Challenge
13:00 - 14:00 UTC and 19:00 - 20:00 UTC 25 January and 03:00 - 04:00 UTC 26 January
Geographic Focus: Worldwide
Participation: Worldwide
Mode: CW
Bands: 160, 80, 40, 20, 15, 10 m
Classes: Single Op
Max power: HP: >5 watts; QRP: 5 watts
Exchange: RST, name, state, province or country and rig
Work stations: Once per band
QSO Points: 3 points per QSO with QCX station; 1 point per QSO with non-QCX station
Multipliers: (none)
Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points
Submit logs by: 04:00 UTC 2 February 2021
Post log summary at:
http://www.3830scores.com
Mail logs to: (none)
Find rules at: http://www.qrp-labs.com/party.html

OK1WC Memorial (MWC)
16:30 - 17:29 UTC 25 January
Geographic Focus: Worldwide
Participation: Worldwide
Mode: CW
Bands: 80, 40 m
Classes: Single Op All Band - QRP or low; Single Op Single Band - QRP or low
Max power: LP: 100 watts; QRP: 5 watts
Exchange: RST and serial no
Work stations: Once per band
QSO Points: 1 point per QSO
Multipliers: Each last character of worked station call suffix once per band
Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults
Submit logs by: 06:00 UTC 29 January 2021

E-mail logs to: (none)
Upload log at: https://memorial-ok1wc.cz/index.php?page=logs
Mail logs to: (none)

Find rules at: https://memorial-ok1wc.cz/index.php?page=rules2l

Next Week's Contests

Worldwide Sideband Activity Contest, 01:00 - 01:59 UTC 26 January
RTTYOPS Week Sprint, 17:00 - 19:00 UTC 26 January
SKCC Sprint, 00:00 - 02:00 UTC 27 January
QRP Fox Hunt, 02:00 - 03:30 UTC 27 January
Phone Weekly Test – Fray, 02:30 - 03:00 UTC 27 January
CWops Mini-CWT Test, 13:00 - 14:00 UTC and 19:00 - 20:00 UTC 27 January and 03:00 - 04:00 UTC 28 January
UKEICC 80 m Contest 20:00 - 21:00 UTC 27 January
NAQCC CW Sprint, 01:30 - 03:30 UTC 28 January
RTTYOPS Week Sprint, 17:00 - 19:00 UTC 28 January
NCCC RTTY Sprint, 01:45 - 02:15 UTC 29 January
QRP Fox Hunt, 02:00 - 03:30 UTC 29 January
NCCC Sprint Ladder, 02:30 - 03:00 UTC 29 January
CQ 160 Metre CQ Contest, 22:00 UTC 29 January to 22:00 UTC 31 January
Feld Hell Sprint, 00:00 - 23:59 UTC 30 January
REF CW Contest, 06:00 UTC 30 January to 18:00 UTC 31 January
UBA DX SSB Contest, 13:00 UTC 30 January to 13:00 UTC 31 January
RTTYOPS Weekend Sprint, 16:00 - 19:59 UTC 30 January
Winter Field Day, 19:00 UTC 30 January to 19:00 UTC 31 January
K1USN Slow Speed Test, 00:00 - 01:00 UTC 1 February
OK1WC Memorial, 16:30 - 17:29 UTC 1 February
RSGB 80 m SSB Club Championship, 20:00 - 21:30 UTC 1 February
Worldwide Sideband Activity Contest, 01:00 - 01:59 UTC 2 February
ARS Spartan Sprint, 02:00 - 04:00 UTC 2 February
RTTYOPS Week Sprint, 17:00 - 19:00 UTC 2 February

Items used with acknowledgement to the ARRL Letter, the ARRL DX News, the ARRL Contest Update, OPDX Bulletin, 425 DX Bulletin, DXNL Newsletter, WIA-News, the RSGB News, DxCoffee, Southgate ARC News, DX World and the Amateur Radio Newsletter